

Message Text

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 14223 160756Z

12
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /031 W
----- 015406
Z O 160708Z DEC 73
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN FLASH
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5657

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 14223

SEND TO PLANE TOSEC

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (FRANGIE, SLEIMAN) LE
SUBJECT PROPOSED VISIT OF LEBANESE PRESIDENT

REF: STATE 245450, STATE 245606

1. DURING DISCUSSION WITH PRESIDENT JUST THIS WEEK ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR SECRETARY'S TRIP, FRANGIE COMMENTED HE AWARE FORMAL INVITATION FOR STATE VISIT TO US STILL OUTSTANDING. HOWEVER, HE ADDED, HE CONSIDERED IT IMPORTANT TO LET SITUATION IN AREA CLARIFY A BIT BEFORE SETTING A SPECIFIC DATE.
2. WHILE HE DID NOT SPECIFY REASONS, I SUSPECT AMONG OTHERS MAY BE HIS CONCERN THAT WITH ADVERSE AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION TO OIL EMBARGO, VISIT NOW BY AN ARAB HEAD OF STATE MIGHT NOT BE PROPITIOUS; AND PERHAPS UNCERTAINTY WHETHER HOSTILITIES MIGHT RESUME WHICH WOULD OF COURSE NECESSITATE HIS PRESENCE HERE.
3. IN LIGHT HIS COMMENTS I BELIEVE THAT PROPOSING SUCH A SPECIFIC EARLY DATE WOULD BE MISCONSTRUED ON HIS PART AND UNWELCOME.
4. PROBLEM IS MERELY A MATTER OF TIMING. HE CLEARLY CONFIDENTIAL

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WANTS TO MAKE SUCH VISIT BUT IS EQUALLY CLEAR THAT MAJOR UNCERTAINTY IN CURRENT SITUATION DICTATES WISDOM OF DEFERRING DECISION ON SPECIFIC DATE. BUFFUM

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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